Batavia Summary*

Demographics & Income:

Between 2000 and 2018, Batavia saw an 11.9% decrease in its population, the largest decline of any of the four cities compared – Rochester, Batavia, Canandaigua and Geneva. Like other cities in the region, this was driven by sizeable declines in younger age groups (under 60 population) as the over 85 population increased. Similar to other regional cities, the demographic makeup of the city also changed in this time period as its African American population increased by 29%, and as its white population decreased by 11%.

In 2013-17, 22% of people in Batavia lived in poverty, almost double the rate in 2000, and higher than the state rate of 15%. Batavia had a slightly higher child poverty rate (30%). Both poverty and child poverty rates in Batavia had large disparities in terms of race and ethnicity, with people of color living in poverty at higher rates than whites.

![Image of People Living in Poverty by Race/Ethnicity, 2013-17]

Like the other cities in the region, Batavia had a decline in median household income from 2000 to 2013-17 (10%), a greater rate than the state as a whole (2%). Its level in 2013-17 was $44,342, the second highest of the four cities. Like the other cities in the region, there were great disparities in median household income between Black or African American households and white households.

*Please note, the indicator information included in this summary reflects the data available at the time of its composition. Some indicator data may have since been updated on our website. Visit actrochester.org/all-indicators for updates.
Housing:

Homeownership rates stayed fairly steady from 2000 to 2012-16, but declined in 2013-17 from 56% to 50%. Batavia had large disparities in rates of homeownership between whites and people of color.

Batavia saw its median home value decrease by 17% from 2000 to 2013-17 ($94,200), a larger decrease than for Rochester (down 13%) and Geneva (down 9%), and in contrast to Canandaigua and the state (which increased by 14% and 35%, respectively).

Batavia’s ratio of median home value to median household income, a measure of housing affordability for homeowners, decreased by 9% from 2000 to 2013-17 (2.1), bringing Batavia’s affordability to a similar level as Geneva and Rochester (2.3 and 2.5, respectively). A ratio below two or three is considered affordable.

In 2013-17, the average renter in Batavia spent $757, or 31% of household income on rent, similar to the share in Canandaigua (30%). That made it one of the more affordable cities for renters of the four cities compared.

Children & Youth:

In 2017, Batavia’s teen pregnancy rate was 4%, a decrease of 1 point from 2006. Batavia had the second highest teen pregnancy rate among the four cities.

Batavia also saw a 2-point decline in babies born with low birth-weight (a leading predictor of neonatal death and higher risks of long-term developmental and neurological disabilities) from 2006 to 2017, bringing its rate to 7%.
Education:

In 2017, Batavia spent $26,914 per student in its education system, above the state rate (excluding NYC) of $23,741. Batavia’s spending level has increased by 75% from the $15,367 it spent in 2000. This was the largest increases of the four cities in the region.

In 2018, Batavia’s 3rd grade English proficiency rate, an important measure of early reading skills, was 46%, the highest rate of the four cities compared. The rate increased by 24 percentage points from 2013 to 2018, the largest improvement amongst the four cities. Batavia continues to have tremendous disparities by ethnicity on this measure, with only 28% of Hispanic and 10% of African American students achieving proficiency (in comparison to 49% of white students), highlighting that its academic gains are not evenly distributed among students.

8th grade math proficiency, an important predictor of high school success in math, was at only 31%, a 5 percentage point increase from 2015. Batavia’s proficiency rate was above Rochester (14%), but below Canandaigua and the state (54% and 48%, respectively).

Rochester’s high school graduation rate in 2018 was 89%, second highest after Canandaigua (93%), and higher than the state (83%) and region (85%). The graduation rate increased by 12 percentage points from 2008, the second largest increase for the cities compared. In comparison to 3rd grade reading, these academic gains are more evenly distributed, with Hispanic students’ graduation rates on par with white students (89%), African American students at 80%, and Asian students at 100%.

Batavia had the highest rate of library visits per resident, with 8.7 visits in 2017. However, Batavia has also seen the largest decrease in this rate from 2000 (down 10%), while other cities increased during the same period.
Crime:

Batavia’s rate of serious crimes was 390 per 10,000 residents in 2017, second only to Rochester (471). This rate has increased 11% since 2000. Rochester, Geneva, the state, nation and region all saw serious crime rate declines during this period.

Batavia’s rate of violent crimes more than tripled from 2008 to 2017 with 64 cases per 10,000 residents reported for the year.

Batavia had a rate of 118 victims of domestic abuse per 10,000 residents. This was the second-highest rate of the four cities compared. Batavia’s rate of domestic violence more than doubled from 2009 to 2017.

Batavia had approximately 239 arrests per 10,000 residents in 2017. Arrests in the city saw a 13% decrease from 2000 (277), and was above the region (198), and the state (226). Batavia had lower arrest rates than Genesee County among its black or African American population (90 city, 146 county) and slightly higher arrest rates among its Hispanic or Latino populations (40 city, 35 county), and among whites (18 city, 17 county).

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